

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Please replace the first paragraph on page 6 of the specification with the following amended paragraph:

The chitosan derivative of the present invention has been functionalized by further chemically modifying the chitosan, and the chitosan used as the raw material should preferably have a degree of deacetylation of at least 40%, preferably 60-100%, more preferably 65-95%. A chitosan having a 100% degree of ~~acetylation-~~deacetylation consists entirely of the constituent units of the above-given formula (1), and does not include the constituent units of formula (2).